

# BE SMART, BUY ART

Four experts pick their top five art superstars



## SONALI RASTOGI

Architect, Founder of art group Manthan

**A. BALASUBRAMANIAM, 39:** Specialises in printmaking and installations. Sells out faster than he produces work.

**PROBIR DASGUPTA, 45:** Works on sculpture, new media.

**MANISHA BASWANI, 43:** Is known for her delicate oils on canvas. Her work is very original.

**V. RAMESH, 52:** One of the best kept secrets of the art world. Lives in Andhra Pradesh and works with oils.

**ANJUM SINGH, 43:** Works with canvas. Has a fine sense of colour and texture.



## ROOBENA KARODE

Curator, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art

**MITHU SEN, 39:** Winner of Skoda Prize for her paper work Black Candy. Her mixed media works are replete with issues of gender and sexuality.

**SURENDRAN NAIR, 54:** His work is surreal and fable-like.

**ATUL DODIYA, 51:** Best known for his oils and water colours. Gandhi is a recurring motif.

**BAPTIST COELHO, 34 & POOJA IRANNA, 41:** Coelho is a new media artist based in Mumbai while Delhi-based Iranna's paintings and prints have an architectural quality.

**RANJANI SHETTAR, 33:** Lives in Karnataka. Known for her delicate installations such as Bird Song and River Dance.



## RAJSHREE PATHY

Industrialist and art collector

**SUBODH GUPTA, 46:** Uses stainless steel objects to create installations and paintings.

**BHARTI KHER, 41:** Best known for her new media work.

**JITISH KALLAT, 36:** For his work like 'Aquasaurus' which reflects an engagement with the world.

**ATUL DODIYA:** His shows sell out immediately. Thought provoking works that engage the viewer.

**A. BALASUBRAMANIAM:** Intense and mature work. Is a big name globally.



## ZEHRA JUMABHOJ

Art writer

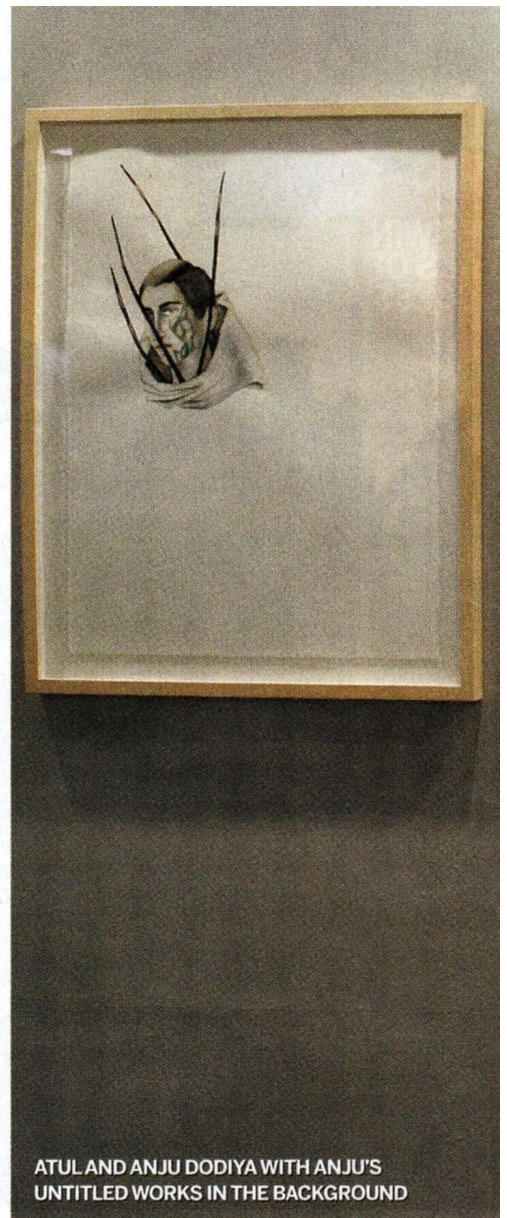
**ATUL DODIYA:** Surprises and provokes with his work.

**RANJANI SHETTAR:** Use of unusual material. Her work is next generation and post minimalism.

**KIRAN SUBBAIAH, 39:** Uses text, informatics and electronics to create exciting new media art.

**SHEELA GOWDA, 53:** Her work is political and conceptual like Panchali, an installation of a woman's hairs, at the IAS.

**NIKHIL CHOPRA, 36:** Performance artist. Shows like Yog Raj Chitrakar have been shown at international museums.



ATUL AND ANJU DODIYA WITH ANJU'S UNTITLED WORKS IN THE BACKGROUND

SUBIR HALDER/www.indiatodayimages.com

the world sculpture list, with works selling for a total of Rs 43 crore. Others who made it to the 2010 Artprice list of top 10 contemporary sculptors according to auction revenue include Bharti Kher at No. 9 with Rs 7 crore and Subodh Gupta next with Rs 5.3 crore. The interest in art and art prices has made the IAS one of the most visited art fairs in the world, with 80 per cent of its art sold to first-time buyers. And this includes new media and video art worth Rs 5 crore. Its 31-year-old founder, Neha Kirpal, the self assured former public relations executive at Hanmer MSL, began with an investment of Rs 5 crore and has broken even in the third year. "It usually takes seven to eight years," she says. No wonder the champagne lunches and vodka dinners at the summit were unending. So much has the business expanded that Kirpal